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**IN THE CLAIMS**

1. (Previously Presented) A deck base comprising:  
  
a generally planar plate, said plate having a central opening on an upper surface, and an integrally molded downwardly extending inner tube extending downwardly from said upper surface, and beyond a lower extent of said plate, and said inner tube and said plate being molded as a one-piece item; and  
  
an outer periphery of said plate includes a caulking groove on an underside surface to receive a bead of caulking.
2. (Original) A deck base as set forth in claim 1, wherein said one-piece molded item is molded from a plastic.
3. (Currently Amended) A deck base comprising:  
  
a generally planar plate, said plate having a central opening on an upper surface, and an integrally molded downwardly extending inner tube extending downwardly from said upper surface, and beyond a lower extent of said plate, and said inner tube and said plate being molded as a one-piece item, an outer periphery of said plate includes a caulking groove on an underside surface to receive a bead of caulking; and  
  
wherein an outer support structure is molded outwardly of said inner tube to provide additional support to said inner tube, said outer support structure including a structure extending downwardly from said plate, said downwardly extending structure surrounding said inner tube.

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4. (Original) A deck base as set forth in claim 3, wherein frusto-conical supporting webs connect said inner tube and said outer support structure.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Original) A deck base comprising:

a generally planar plate portion having a central opening on an upper surface, and an integrally molded downwardly extending inner tube extending downwardly from said upper surface, and beyond a lower extent of said plate, and said inner tube and said plate being molded as a one-piece item from plastic; and

an outer ring mounted concentrically outwardly of said inner tube to provide additional support to said inner tube, frusto-conical supporting webs connect said inner tube and said outer rings; an outer periphery of said plate including a caulking groove on an underside surface to receive a bead of caulking.

7. (Previously Presented) A boat comprising:

a deck;

a seat;

a deck plate for mounting said seat on said deck;

said deck plate including a central opening on an upper surface, and an integrally molded downwardly extending inner tube extending downwardly from said upper surface, and beyond a

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lower extent of said plate, and said inner tube and said plate being molded as a one-piece item;  
and

an outer periphery of said plate includes a caulking groove on an underside surface to receive a bead of caulking.

8. (Original) A boat as set forth in claim 7, wherein said one-piece molded item is molded from a plastic.

9. (Currently Amended) A boat comprising:

a deck;

a seat;

a deck plate for mounting said seat on said deck;

said deck plate including a central opening on an upper surface, and an integrally molded downwardly extending inner tube extending downwardly from said upper surface, and beyond a lower extent of said plate, and said inner tube and said plate being molded as a one-piece item, an outer periphery of said plate includes a caulking groove on an underside surface to receive a bead of caulking; and

an outer support structure is molded outwardly of said inner tube to provide additional support to said inner tube.

10. (Original) A boat as set forth in claim 9, wherein frusto-conical supporting webs connect said inner tube and said outer support structure.

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11. (Cancelled)

12. (Previously Presented) A deck base as set forth in claim 3, wherein said downwardly extending structure is cylindrical, and webs connect said downwardly extending structure and said inner tube.

13. (Previously Presented) A boat as set forth in claim 9, wherein said downwardly extending structure is cylindrical, and webs connect said downwardly extending structure and said inner tube.